



signed and installed native plant demonstration gardens, led workshops on developing backyard habitats, and inspired countless others to develop an interest in Kentucky's plants and animals.

Mary Carol's unconventional path to conservation work taught us all that it's never too late to start anew. At the age of 60, she left her job as a medical secretary and went back to college to study wildlife management. Soon after graduating from UKU, she began working in Gatzert's greenhouses under the late Short Evans. Her passion for Kentucky's environment did not stop there. Over the years, she served on numerous boards and committees, including the Lexington Chapter of the Wild Ones, the Cumberland Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Kentucky Exotic Plant Plant Council, Fierston Nature Sanctuary, Haven Farm's Advisory Board, Eastern Piedmonters, and Friends of the Kentucky State Nature Preserves. She also led programs for Shaker Village and Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's *Becoming an Outdoor Woman* and volunteered her time for the annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count.

*As a dedicated educator, Mary Carol excelled in sharing her passion and knowledge of the natural world. She was a generous donor, and always seemed to be around to assist the members of clubs, which she made an*